

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1.(canceled) In an immobilization weapon of the type which employs expanding gas to propel a pair of wire-tethered contact darts toward a remote target and applies a high voltage between the contact darts to temporarily disable the target; a method of reducing inadvertent high voltage arcing that would otherwise limit the efficacy of the weapon; the method comprising the steps of:

- a) placing a first end of a first pyrotechnic device adjacent a first wire-tethered dart;
- b) placing a first end of a second pyrotechnic device adjacent a second wire-tethered dart;
- c) electrically interconnecting respective second ends of said first and second pyrotechnic devices; and
- d) directly connecting said first and second wire-tethered darts through their respective wire tether to a switchable high voltage source.

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2.(currently amended) In an immobilization weapon of the type which employs expanding gas to propel a pair of wire-tethered contact darts toward a remote target and applies a high voltage between the contact darts to temporarily disable the target; a method of reducing inadvertent high voltage arcing that would otherwise limit the efficacy of the weapon; the method comprising the steps of:

- a) placing a first end of a first pyrotechnic device mechanically adjacent a first wire-tethered dart within a first bore having an exit;
- b) placing a first end of a second pyrotechnic device mechanically adjacent a second wire-tethered dart within a second bore having an exit;
- c) directly connecting said first and second wire-tethered darts through their respective wire tethers to a switchable high voltage source having opposite polarity outputs;
- d) electrically connecting a second end of said first pyrotechnic device to the polarity output of said high voltage source to which said second wire-tethered dart is connected; ~~and~~
- e) electrically connecting a second end of said second pyrotechnic device to the polarity output of said high voltage source to which said first wire-tethered dart is connected~~=~~; and
- f) positioning the exits of said first and second bores sufficiently distant from the respective second ends of said pyrotechnic devices to prevent an ignition spark from passing through an exit.

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3.(canceled) In an immobilization weapon of the type which employs expanding gas to propel a pair of wire-tethered contact darts toward a remote target and applies a high voltage between the contact darts to temporarily disable the target; a method of reducing inadvertent high voltage arcing that would otherwise limit the efficacy of the weapon; the method comprising the steps of:

- a) connecting pyrotechnic devices in series with each other; and
- b) connecting said pyrotechnic devices in parallel with said darts.

4.(currently amended) In an immobilization weapon of the type which employs expanding gas to propel a pair of wire-tethered contact darts toward a remote target and applies a high voltage between the contact darts to temporarily disable the target; a method of reducing inadvertent high voltage arcing that would otherwise limit the efficacy of the weapon; the method comprising the steps of:

- a) connecting pyrotechnic devices in parallel electrically with each other; and
- b) connecting said pyrotechnic devices in parallel electrically with said darts; and
- c) storing the bulk of the dart tether wires between the darts prior to detonation.